

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT  
FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET HEARING  
SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019  
10:00A.M.**

**1. OPENING**

**1.1.1 Call to Order**

Councilmember President Yeargin called the meeting to order at 10:17a.m.

**1.1.2 Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Eugene Grant, Councilmember Charl Jones, Councilmember Hope Love, Councilmember Lamar Maxwell (Late), Councilmember Shireka McCarthy, Councilmember Kelly Porter (Excused), Councilmember Gloria Sistrunk, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Robert Ashton, Financial Advisor, C. Reginald Bagley, Acting Director of Economic Development, Dominique Brown, Director of Public Works, Monay Henry, Administrative Assistant, Marcus Jones, Assistant to the Chief, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk, Sharron Lipford, Director of Public Engagement, Devan Martin, Chief of Police, Diamond Plater, Council Clerk, Chantell Tyler, Accounting Assistant, Jeannelle Wallace, Chief Operating Officer, Adeoye Aganga-Williams, Chief Financial Officer

**2. Meeting Topics**

**2.1.1. FY2020 Proposed Budget Hearing**

- Mrs. Wallace stated that we are pleased to present to the Proposed FY2020 Budget. We do not have a lot of changes in the budget.
- The City is proposing property taxes at .58 cent per \$100.00. The property taxes in Seat Pleasant has not increased. The business personal property tax is \$15.00 per \$100.00. Although the business personal property tax is high, but it balances out in comparison to the other municipalities' fees and charges.

- The City of Seat Pleasant chose to not have the same constant yield rate as the County. The Constant Yield Rate is higher this year due to the increased of the assessed values of the properties.
- Council President Yeargin inquired of the State Constant Yield Rate?
- Mrs. Wallace stated that each property owner must pay both city and state taxes.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that we are presenting a budgeting for outcomes document, which shows the amount of time each staff takes to produce the work in accordance to the Strategic Outcome as approved by the City Council.
- Mayor Grant stated that we do not have a slush fund, but a contingency.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that Auditors use to in the past was to have 5-10% in your reserves as your assessible base.

#### **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:**

- Mrs. Robinson-6110 Addison Rd. wanted to clarification about the trash cans and recycle bins that was allocated in the budget, if it could be reallocated. Mayor Grant stated that the City Council can reallocate funding. She wanted to know if the trash cans are appropriated in the budget.
- Mayor Grant stated that the subject of trash cans has been going on for years. There is a lot of misinformation about the trash cans. The vision was to have uniform trash cans through-out the city.
- Mayor Grant stated that there are 1600 homes in Seat Pleasant it will cost the city \$280,000 for uniform trash cans and recycle bins. The City Council had appropriated 40,000 in the budget for trash cans in 2016. It was assumed that there was a grant to assist with the purchase of trash cans.
- Mayor Grant stated the grant did not exist. If we are to seek a grant, it will be a green initiative grant and that was the agreement during the meeting. The Public Works Committee in 2016 had agreed to seek the green initiative grant to the full council and they agreed. It was election year and a few councilmembers had used it to get votes from the residents. The contract with Bates allows for each resident to get trashcans and no one had read it in the contract.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the current contract with Bates does not require Bates to provide the city with trash cans. Bates had sent an addendum that will require the city to pay \$100 per trash cans, but the city never signed the addendum. We had several concerns arise regarding the trash cans, which included the size and senior citizens assistance.

- Councilmember McCarthy suggested that the city send information out to see who is interested in trash cans for the city to purchase them in bulk.
- Councilmember Sistrunk stated that she will drive any resident in her ward to Home Depot to purchase the trash cans.
- Sheila McConnell stated that she resides in Forestville and they sent a card for the residents to request a trash can. They know that when they move, they cannot take the trashcan with them. They are assigned to the property.
- Mr. Brown stated that an employee can legally lift 50lbs without straining themselves.
- Councilmember McCarthy read Chapter 129-Solid Waste 129-12 regarding trash being placed in bins and should be purchased by the owner or tenant. It was requested for this information to be placed in the next newsletter.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the County Constant Yield rate is .879 per \$100 and the city's is .58 per \$100 per assessed value.
- Christine Samuel-6914 G Street wanted to know if there is away a notice can be sent out in the community regarding requirements for the trash receptacles.
- Mayor Grant stated that we had a resident complain about the police department issuing citation. The citation was about unregistered vehicles and out of state tags. The issue is people will not tell the truth, as the resident was issued warnings and information from the police department regarding the issue. We allow the resident to give their comment or inquiry and we do not respond, as we will research and respond accordingly.
- The City of Seat Pleasant will provide the citizens with sewer line warranty information offered through National League of Cities.
- Mayor Grant explained the complaint on Monday, April 8, 2019 regarding the Special Taxing District, which the city can legally enforce or upload in accordance to the City Charter. The City Attorney advised the Mayor, Mrs. Wallace and Ms. Lanham with the options.
- The Mayor recommended to the City Council to rescind the legislation. The Council agreed and approved.
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#### **4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**4.1. Ward V Monthly Meeting, Monday, April 15, 2019, Seat Pleasant Activity Center, 5720 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD from 9:30am-11:30a.m.**

**4.2 Annual Seat Pleasant Day, Saturday, May 4, 2019, Parade from Goodwin Park at 11:00a.m., Activities at Seat Pleasant Elementary School from 12:00p.m.-6:00p.m.**

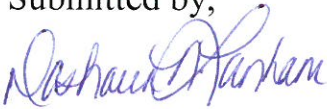
**4.3 Regular Work Session, Monday, May 6, 2019, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD at 6:00p.m.**

**4.4 Public Session, Monday, May 13, 2019, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD at 7:00p.m.**

**Adjourn:**

The Budget hearing adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Submitted by,



Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED 0-31